

The Claims

- 505  
7 1. An automatic finger positioning guide for fingerprint scanners comprising:
- a) an active scan area on the scanner surface upon which one finger rests and a non-active area on the scanner surface on which one or more of the other fingers rest to provide stability;
  - b) a stop post on the scanner surface to indicate how far to place the hand longitudinally thereof;
  - c) a guide post on the scanner surface to assist in positioning the finger laterally; and
  - d) a sensor on at least one of the posts to indicate when the hand is properly in place.
2. The finger positioning guide according to claim 1, wherein the stop post and the guide post are of electrically conductive material so that a circuit is completed when the hand is properly in place.
3. The finger positioning guide according to claim 1, wherein pressure sensitive membrane switches are provided on the stop post and on the guide post.
4. The finger positioning guide according to claim 1, wherein left-hand and right-hand guide posts and stop posts are provided on the scanner surface.
5. The finger positioning guide accordingly to claim 1, further including a visual indicator on the scanner operatively connected to the sensor to signal when the hand is properly in place.